

Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

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Report for Meeting of September 15, 2022

Happy late summer! Though Labor Day has meant a "short" week in the town office, it has seemed like anything but that. Jennifer and I have split days at the semi-annual Elections trainings in Bangor. It's required training, but not very productive. I will be gone Friday afternoon for volleyball refereeing at Colby College for a couple of days.

We've had some people who have been less than pleasant to deal with in the office this week, but the weather's been nice!

School is back in session, which is always a good thing. The traffic into the town office has lessened significantly now that the first half property tax deadline has passed. For me, it seems like the period between Labor Day and Christmas is the time to get things done.

You've got kind of a busy agenda this time, with some interesting items to discuss.

Minutes - September 1, 2022 - please do the usual fantastic editing job if you would.

Expenditure Warrant 6 – This is going to be on the large side. The school operations and payroll warrants total over \$180,000. The warrant will be posted on the website and updated periodically.

<u>Cash & Budget Reports</u> – I'll have a final cash & budget report for FY 2022, as part of the school warrant was for last year. The current budget report will be posted on the website and periodically updated.

Audit Schedule – The reason it'll be the final budget report for FY 2022 is that the auditors will be here in late September, so the books will be closing out starting next week. This will be significantly earlier than it has been thanks to improvements at the school business office.

Recreation Committee – Nikki Chan and the committee say they'll finally be able to make it to a meeting with you. It's been a while since you've spoken with the committee. They are down some members, though one person has volunteered. Among the items that you might wish to discuss are roles for the committee, the athletic fields, whether a rec director ought to be considered.

Special Town Meeting Warrant – I have drafted both a special town meeting warrant and the proposed ordinance change that are in you packets. The Board of Assessors will review this the day before your meeting, so there might be some changes. The basic intent will be to call for a special referendum for November 8th to "retire" the elected Board of Assessors and allow the Select Board to appoint an assessor.

PFAS Testing/Salt Contamination – A memo to the Maine DEP regarding past salt contamination from 30-years ago near the current salt/sand shed is in your materials. They had requested what info I could find regarding what had happened there back in 1992/93. We might have an update from the DEP on their testing of wells for PFAS and the high sodium reading on one well.

Regional Animal Control – Good progress has been made on a regional ACO. A draft contract with the County Commissioners is in your packet for their conceptual approval. The other 8 towns involved have had good input on this, and there's an e-mail from the Regional Animal Control agent supporting the effort.

Short Term Rental Regulation Request – You all got an email (or several) from a Marlboro Beach Road resident requesting some sort of regulation. This e-mail has also been provided to the Planning Board, and if there is time at their meeting on the 12th, they might discuss it.

Halloween Event – There is a message from a Walker Road resident urging some unspecified support for a Halloween event this year. This was sent to the school and fire departments and the Recreation Committee as well. Having the town as a sponsor for such an event worries me from an insurance standpoint, but you can discuss that.

Transfer Station Incident – I e-mailed you a memo regarding a complaint regarding a commercial trash hauler at the facility last weekend. The same hauler complained last year, and a copy of that memorandum provided to you is also in your packet.

Community Center – Jo requested this be on the agenda at the previous meeting. The last time the Community Center committee met was before the pandemic, and no real action had taken place.

Elder Services/Programs – Jo also asked that this be placed on the agenda.

Public Hearing Date – General Assistance Ordinance Updates – Annually, the towns across Maine update the numbers in the ordinance as provided by the state of Maine. It's time to do that again – I suggest the October 6th Board meeting. A 1 page summary of the new numbers is in your packet.

That's it for the agenda (for now). We'll see you on Thursday the 15th.

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